

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

STRACHAN

Atty. Ref.: 3714-3

Serial No. to be assigned

Group: 2661

Filed: herewith

Examiner: Cangialosi, S.

For: PICK POOLS SYSTEM AND METHOD USING PACKET-SWITCHED
NETWORK

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Jan. 22, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-5.

Please add the following new claims:

6. (New) A method of setting up pools and wagering points on sporting events so that at least one pool includes a plurality of different users that compete against one another, the method comprising:

assigning a user to a given pool so that the pool includes a plurality of users designated as being associated therewith, the users in the given pool to compete against other users in the pool;

causing a pick screen to be displayed to the user on a display of the user's computer;

the pick screen enabling the user to browse through a plurality of different sporting events and review odds and/or over/under lines on the different sporting events;

the user utilizing the pick screen in picking a sporting event and wagering a number of points on the picked sporting event by way of at least one of a straight pick, a tease pick, a parlay pick and a reverse pick, so that for a pick the user determines and inputs the number of points that the user desires to wager on the pick via the pick screen, and the number of points to be wagered by the user being variable based upon the user's desire so that a different number of points can be wagered for different picks made by a user;

the user submitting the pick made in said picking step;

causing the results of the pick to be displayed to the user via the network at a point in time after the sporting event of said picking step has been completed;

the server causing results of picks made by other users in the pool to be displayed to the user via the network at a point in time after the sporting event of said picking step has been completed; and

causing the winner of the pool to be displayed

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7. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the winner of the pool is the user having the highest point total.

8. (New) The method of claim 6, further comprising invalidating or not accepting picks from a given user that represent duplicates of another pick already made by the given user.

REMARKS

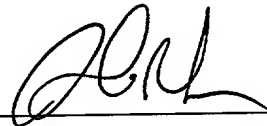
This is a continuation of 09/148,162, filed 9/4/98 (allowed 10/09/01). Claims 1-5 have been canceled, and new claims 6-8 added. Thus, claims 6-8 are now pending.

It is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____



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